

Jim Doyle Governor

Helene Nelson Secretary

State of Wisconsin

Department of Health and Family Services

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Dear Foster Parents:

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all of the work that you do for foster children and their families in Wisconsin. We celebrate Foster Family Month this May and honor the extraordinary work that you do every day for children in your care. As the new Administrator for the Division of Children and Family Services, I am excited to work with foster parents and foster care agencies who make a difference in the day-to-day lives of children.

Various activities are occurring across the state to celebrate and honor those who selflessly open their lives, homes and families to care for children in the foster care system. We have listed resources that counties and private agencies may use to celebrate foster care on our web site at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/children/foster. On this web site, you will find a copy of the proclamation from Governor Doyle declaring May as Foster Family Month, a press release sent to the media, brochures about foster care and links to related web sites for additional information.

The Division of Children and Family Services has made the difficult decision to suspend this year's statewide Foster Parent Reception and Dinner due to significant budget constraints. However, next year we will explore hosting this dinner to celebrate all the work that foster families do. Thank you for your tireless dedication. You make an incredible difference for children and families in Wisconsin.

Sincerely

Kitty/Kodol Administrator